

property addressed and presented earlier; and for compliance with objections, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.116(a); and in furtherance with issues discussed with Examiner Le on November 18, 2004.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 2-7.

Kindly amend claims 1 and 8 as follows:

Claim 1. (Twice Amended) A post protector to be positioned around the base of a vertical post, having a front and a rear portion, for preventing moving objects such as material handling equipment from striking the post secured to a support surface and for protecting the post protector itself, and any such moving object, from destruction of one by the other comprising: a barrier adapted to be positioned horizontally around the front and adjacent the rear of the post and spaced away from all sides of the base of the post providing a space between said barrier and the post to protect said post from being struck by a moving object adjacent the support surface; said barrier having contiguous front and rear portions defining a certain size interior enclosure adapted to enclose the post in the interior formed thereby to provide said complete spacing of said barrier away from the post; said barrier rear portion has an extended support portion extending horizontally rearwardly beyond the post; said barrier having securing means interior thereto and adjacent said barrier extended rear portion and the post for

securing said barrier to the support surface rearwardly of the post for retention reaction against horizontal deflection of said barrier; and said barrier having resistively flexible oblique vertical bends between said front panel portions and said respective rear support portions adjacent extended side support portions whereby when said barrier is deflected rearwardly said rear support portions will resiliently deflect outwardly away from the post against the retention reaction of said rearward and forward securing means.

Claim 8. (Twice Amended) A vertical barrier as defined in claim 1 having a securing means between said barrier rearwardly extending portions with a central beam portion at the bottom of said rearward barrier portions positioned totally between and adjacent the most rearward portions thereof and secured to respective rearwardly extended barrier portions, and said central beam portion being adapted to be secured to the floor forwardly of said rear most portion of said rearwardly extended portions to provide a resistive force around said rearward securing means when said barrier front portions are deflected rearwardly, whereby when said barrier is deflected rearwardly said rear support portions will resiliently deflect outwardly away from the post against the retention reaction of said rearward and forward securing means.

SUMMARY OF THIS PROPOSED AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

This proposed Amendment after final rejection places the limitations of cancelled claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 in claim 1 and claim 8 is dependent on claim 1.